

New York Tribune.

First to Last—The Truth—News—Editorials—Advertisements.

FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 8, 1915.

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Stabilizing Foreign Exchange.

Yesterday's sharp rise in demand sterling seems to forecast a return to sanity and relative stability in the foreign exchange market. The depression of the rate on Wednesday to 4.50 in our market to 4.48 in London's—was apparently the last phase of a derangement, largely hysterical in character, which had run unchecked too long. It is as much against this country's interest as it is against Great Britain's to allow an unreasonable disparity in exchange to hamper commerce between the two nations. Great Britain would naturally cut down to the minimum her purchases from us if an artificial blockade in exchange facilities compelled her to pay an exchange premium of \$6 on every \$100. The premium exacted would not benefit the American with goods to sell. He would get no share of it. It would only constitute a vexatious tax on our European customers.

In ordinary times the sales we make abroad are not paid for in cash—that is, in gold. London's debts to us are balanced in 95 out of 100 cases by our debts to London. For a trifling sum the London customer can purchase American exchange, and if the exchange brokers run the price of this accommodation too high the London customer can draw gold and ship it here, paying freight and insurance. Before the war the pound sterling was worth \$4.87 1/2. Now, because we are buying little from London and London is buying so much from us, the exchange value of the pound has steadily slumped, going as low as \$4.48. With both countries on a gold basis and our gold dollar worth no more in London now than it was before the war, there is no sufficient reason for the excessive charge levied on British buyers for the use of the machinery of exchange.

The exchange value of the pound sterling has depreciated simply because no adequate measures have been taken to preserve a reasonable parity. There are three ways by which London could restore a normal ratio. It could send gold here to pay British debts. But shipping gold in bars is hazardous and under present conditions very expensive. Moreover, the United States would not welcome excessive gold shipments. A big increase in our gold supply would lead to artificial inflation here. We do not want to exhaust gold funds of European nations and thus impair their financial stability and weaken their capacity to purchase further from us. It would also be impracticable for Great Britain and France to pay by gold shipments for the vast quantities of supplies which they have contracted for in this country for delivery in the next twelve months.

The second expedient is to resell in the New York market American securities now held abroad. These have come back in considerable quantities. But the Allied governments find it difficult to induce individuals to part with stocks and bonds which have a good earning power and interest and dividends on which are artificially increased in value by the appreciation of American exchange.

The third expedient is to float governmental loans here for the purpose of paying for supplies purchased. This remedy, applied on a large scale, would quickly re-establish a proper parity of exchange. The United States would much rather take its pay for the products it sells to the Allies in their obligations than see its market abroad limited by an excessive premium exacted from foreign purchasers by the exchange dealers.

The rise in demand sterling yesterday originated in London. It was high time that London did something to restore the balance. Any remedial move made by Great Britain will have the strongest support from financial interests here, which see in a disorganization of the exchange rate a real obstacle to our commercial expansion.

Keep the Water Pure!

It is greatly to be hoped the state authorities will give heed to the protests of Water Commissioner Williams and Health Commissioner Goldwater against the proposal to discharge sewage effluent into the Mohawk Lake. This state wants to turn the sewage from Mohawk State Hospital, with about 5,000 inmates, into the lake, first treating it chemically. Mohawk Lake is part of the Croton watershed and its waters are directly a part of the water supply of New York City.

This scheme might be defensible if there were no other means of disposing of this sewage. There is one, entirely practicable, which State Health Commissioner Biggs says "must be ultimately adopted." But at present the state authorities prefer the Mohawk Lake scheme, because to carry out the other—discharging the effluent from the sewage disposal plant into the Hudson—would cost about \$120,000 additional.

New York City justly prides itself on the purity of its water supply. It pays enough for it, goodness knows. It pays unjust taxes to upstate communities for it.

In consideration of those unjust taxes—amounting to about \$400,000 a year—and the great preponderance of just taxes which the metropolis pays, it seems only reasonable to expect that its drinking water should be kept from pollution by a state institution, even at the additional cost of \$120,000.

Alfred E. Smith.

The City of New York could well afford to pay Alfred E. Smith all the prospective emoluments of the Sheriff's office as a consideration for his continuing to represent a local Assembly district at Albany. In the past ten years there has been no Republican, Progressive or Democrat in the State Legislature who has rendered as effective, useful, downright valuable service to this town as ex-Speaker Smith.

The limitations of the Tammany candidate for Sheriff in New York County are the limitations of the machine politician. At Albany Mr. Smith has "taken orders." He is one of Murphy's "boys." But he has not hesitated to oppose Tammany proposals in conference and he has never lacked the courage to tell Murphy to his face what other Democrats of far greater pretensions to independence and influence hesitated to whisper around the corner.

The peculiar value of Mr. Smith's services at Albany has lain in the fact that he was always loyal to his own city, his own county and his own district. He has fought for scores of things that were good, and he has fought with equal vigor against things that were injurious to this town.

The trouble with most Republican representatives at Albany has been that they have been Republicans before they were New Yorkers, that they have given attention to what was desired by a party having its headquarters up the state instead of in this city. As a consequence the city has been plundered and despoiled and the local Republican representative has been without honor at home or elsewhere.

With no such handicap to carry Assemblyman Smith has given his whole attention to city interests. A true leader, a genuine compeller of men, a man of wit and force and an instinctive grasp on legislative practice, he has made a real reputation for himself at the capital and has deserved well of the large constituency which is his own town.

Blows to Rowdism.

Chief Inspector Schmittberger's report on the lessening of streetcar rowdism this summer is an encouraging sign of the efficacy of good straight police work. This nuisance, flourishing chiefly on Sundays and holidays, when most people want to travel abroad, has been a genuine menace to the peace and comfort of decent people who visit parks and beaches near the city. It has at times reached such proportions as to deter the weak and timorous from taking proposed pleasure trips. It is to be hoped the police, in co-operation with the magistrates, who have uniformly been imposing severe sentences on the offenders, have got the evil well in hand.

There remains another to which the police should devote their attention. Under an amendment to the penal law which has just taken effect, the term "vagrant" is defined so that the "masher," or male who presses his attentions on unwilling women, may be arrested just as street women are. There should be no sex privilege in such transactions. New York may not be as bad as some other cities in respect of its mashers, but it is so bad that decent women are frequently subjected to most indecent advances from men who loiter in public places for no other purpose. That should be stopped easily under this new law, backed up by a few workhouse sentences. New York's streets and streetcars should be safe, and decent, for any person at any time.

As to British "Concessions."

The Tribune has received a letter from one of its friends asking if it holds the same view with reference to the use of the word "concessions" in the case of British as in that of German yielding to the rightful demands of the American Government. It decidedly does.

To speak of the course of the British Government in consenting to allow the shipment of the non-contraband of German origin held at Rotterdam and consigned to Americans as a "concession" is to talk foolishly and with patent disregard for the facts.

The United States is not asking "concessions" of Germany or Great Britain. It is not a "concession" for the British Government to permit the transportation of goods which it has no right to stop. It is merely a yielding to a just demand of a country whose rights it has invaded. It is merely consenting to live within the law, which forbids the things complained of.

The Tribune has said before that the greatest mistake that could be made by the British Government is that it should act illegally because a large fraction of the people of this country sympathize with the Allied cause and hope to see Germany defeated. There is a far larger fraction of the American people who believe that the first duty of this neutral country is to preserve international law and combat the "law of necessity" which Germans have invoked against neutral lives and British statesmen against neutral property.

We shall not be the cat's-paw of Germany. We shall not now be pushed into a quarrel with Great Britain merely to serve German ends, and upon issues which are not our own, but German. But there is no disposition in this country to surrender rights which are established in international law.

Above all, there is no disposition to regard obedience to the law on the part of Germany or of Great Britain as a "concession." The very idea is abhorrent. Neither Great Britain nor Germany has made "concessions." We shall be satisfied with our rights and we shall continue to insist that they be recognized. The Germans have curiously failed to

recognize the American habit of mind which places human life above property interests, and this has resulted in the concentration of American attention upon the German policy of assassination. They have with obvious insolence endeavored to compel us to act against England by using their submarine campaign as a threat to our own nationals. Presumably they have now seen their mistake and abandoned a peculiarly stupid policy.

Once the German incident is formally disposed of it is certain that the differences between this country and Great Britain will be the subject of diplomatic exchanges. We have grievances that are real and we shall make demands, based on rights, which will have to be granted.

But there exists between the United States and Great Britain an arbitration treaty which compels a year of pause before any drastic step is taken. No question of life is involved, and nothing is more certain than that those points on which agreement is impossible will be left to arbitration in conformity with the language of the treaty. Exactly the same course will be followed with Germany, although we have no treaty, on all questions which do not involve human life.

Our correspondent is perfectly right in pointing out that it is inappropriate to speak of British as of German "concessions." It is equally humiliating. There is no question of "concession," and can be none. The British will be singularly ill advised if they adopt toward American rights the attitude followed by the Germans toward American lives, and the consequences will only be less serious because property and not life is involved.

A Real Gift.

Mr. August Belmont, as treasurer of the Committee of Mercy engaged in relief work for the Serbians, has been enriched by the sum of 45 cents contributed by a little girl in New Orleans, who is too shy to give her name. She is six and a half years old, at that critical period of childhood when some teeth are going out and some are coming in. Whenever she loses one "The Bunny" leaves 15 cents under her pillow as a slight reward for her good behavior. Recently she lost three.

Instead of spending her 45 cents for candy or other things dear to childhood, this little lady, in a laudable spirit of self-sacrifice, put the money in an envelope and sent it away to help the Serbians. Possibly she is as happy now as if she had invested it at a New Orleans headquarters for sweetmeats. Without undue moralizing we may perhaps profit by an example which cost her much in her small way. Her childish act is one of those tiny sparks that stand out with pathetic brightness against the great and sullen background of the war.

Blackwell's Island, says Commissioner Davis, is likely to have an honor system similar to Sing Sing's because of the good behavior of prisoners at a concert. Treating them decently seems to inspire quite different behavior from that of the riots and "subdue-them-with-hose" days.

The captain of the Brooklyn Nationals has been designated as a Democratic candidate for Alderman because of the popularity of the team. No member of the Giants is in any danger of having public office thrust upon him.

If the "department of laughter" which May Irwin suggests to President Wilson be formed, she might well be appointed as its head.

"Diamond Jim" Brady, even if he had not recovered that \$4,000 gem, would have sparkled no less brilliantly.

The Chevalier Mencheta.

(From The Dundee Advertiser.)
The French colony in Barcelona has taken steps to deal with one Mencheta who runs a newspaper believed to be in the pay of Germany. This Mencheta for past services, not stated, seems to have obtained the French Legion of Honor. He does not, however, appear to be very grateful for the distinction. This is how he has written about France:

"It is useless to mention France. She consents to be the humble vassal of all who protect her against Germany, be they England, Russia, Serbia, or Montenegro. She dares not raise her voice unless it be against Spain, whom she prevents from occupying Tangier, but all the same cannot drive from her own territory the Germans, who are masters of a great portion of it in spite of the boasts of half a century of a revanche." The French in Barcelona have taken of this enemy of France should be struck off the roll of the Legion of Honor and supplied instead with one of the Iron Crosses sold by hawkers in the streets.

How Foundations Work.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The editor of The Tribune is to be commended upon the attitude taken in this morning's paper upon the Rockefeller and other foundations. With vast amounts of money at their disposal these foundations are in a position to "poison the wells of truth" in this country, and but for the papers like The Tribune there is no one to reply to them.

In this connection just consider the action of the Russell Sage Foundation with respect to the question of adequate relief for widowed mothers. The foundation had plenty of money to spend in opposition to governmental aid to such mothers, but apparently had not a dollar to spend to show how they could be adequately helped in any other way. If it had not been for The Tribune and other papers, the foundation would have got away with it in this state.

PUBLIC OFFICER.

New York, Aug. 28, 1915.

A Woman's Reason.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: An American prima donna has recently declared in an interview with a representative of The Tribune that her sympathies are pro-German in the war—that it could not be otherwise, as Germany made her what she is in the operative world.

How intensely like a woman all this is!—illogical, superficial, and showing an incapacity to hold the scales of justice in an even balance.

It is to be hoped that woman suffrage, of which The Tribune has come out as champion, will not be adopted in this state. We have enough of people already who are willing or anxious to put forward and vote upon propositions as foolish as any that could be conceived by the non-understandable sex.

New York, Aug. 31, 1915. T. E. W.

BACK TO A PEACE BASIS

Opportunity of Neutrals to End War by International Federation.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: May I offer a suggestion which, if acted upon, might bring to an end the present European conflict, namely, that the United States urge the other neutral powers that they join them in intervening on the side of the Entente Allies, provided:

First—That they (the Entente Allies) promise and agree to add the neutral powers in the creation of a World Parliament or the development of the Hague Tribunal to this status for the making of international laws regarding such subjects as a consensus of public opinion from time to time places within the scope of this federal legislative body.

Second—That in order that the decisions of said legislative body be duly honored and enforced, they further promise to contribute in common with the neutral powers at the close of the present war an adequate and equitable proportion of their naval and land forces for the organization and maintenance of an international police force on land and sea.

Third—Also, that they agree to uphold the neutral powers in exacting similar promises from the Teutonic Allies as one of the conditions of peace.

Should the United States succeed in securing the co-operation of the Entente Allies and the other neutral powers in this undertaking it would confer untold blessings on future generations, as well as hasten the end of the present war.

The reason talk of peace seems utopian just now is that the decrees of our one universal court have been set at naught and trampled upon by a strong nation, thus necessitating a temporary return to anarchy among the nations. It is utopian and almost nonsensical to talk of world peace without the power to compel refractory and grasping nations to respect the rights of others and submit their disputes to arbitration. The non-existence of this force has permitted a grave outrage by a pirate nation, and this should never again be allowed. "Scraps of paper" must be transmuted into "bands of steel." But while world peace without world force is utopian, it is within the range of practical statesmanship to advocate, organize and maintain an international police force that should have been brought into being with the birth of the Hague Tribunal.

The suppression of the Boxer rebellion is proof that organic union is not essential. The nations that marched on Peking had not even a federal relation to China. The better judgment of the powers said, "Let there be peace," and only because they had the power as well as the will to compel it, there was peace. The success of their mission in this case is a striking example of the practicality of the enforcement of international peace.

The history of British rule in India clearly demonstrates that a common language, though desirable, is not absolutely necessary. Such problems as closer federation and the adoption or development of a language that all can understand may be left to the future. There need be no immediate co-operation in anything except the compelling of obedience to the decree of the Hague Tribunal.

Lovers of peace are at one on this world over. They would all fight on the side of peace if only sure that they were combating their real enemy, War. No would Americans of German birth and descent be behind. They, too, would strike a blow at war, even if they had to do it by taking up arms against their own kith and kin to whom the opportunity of fighting for world peace had not been given.

"Who knoweth whether" your worthy President has "not come to the kingdom for such a time as this?"

ALFRED FITZPATRICK.

Toronto, Canada, Aug. 25, 1915.

"A Strategic Retreat?"

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Mrs. Dodge, anti-suffrage leader, is quite amused with the "weird stunts" to which her opponents resort—for instance their charge that the "anti" speakers insist that woman's place is the home, which, Mrs. Dodge says, they never do.

Does Mrs. Dodge never go to an "anti" meeting? Is she completely ignorant of what her well-paid speakers are saying, or is her assertion the first step in a "strategic retreat"? Of course those who go, as I have gone, repeatedly to "anti" meetings and suffrage debates know that the aphorism referred to, and so-called arguments elaborated therefrom, have for years formed the staple of their speech. I readily recall instance after instance of it, not only by Mrs. Scott, but by many others, including Mrs. John Martin.

Perhaps their willing speaker, whom I heard say in the Brooklyn Academy of Music that if she could have her way she would drive all the women out business back into the home with a club. Mr. Everett P. Wheeler recently said before a large audience at a parlor meeting that those women who took part in the suffrage parade were a disgrace to their sex—I presume because their place is his estimation, was in the home.

If the "anti" are really to drop this time-honored battle cry I think the bottom is knocked out of their whole position. Perhaps they are beginning to see it that way, and that we may shortly find them enrolling themselves with us for victory in November.

PHILIP COMSTOCK.

Men's League for Woman Suffrage, 18th Assembly District, Brooklyn.

Brooklyn, Aug. 28, 1915.

Watchful and Prepared.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The situation between the United States and Germany seems to be clearing up because Germany does not want to get into trouble with the United States at this time.

Notwithstanding, let us be careful and remember that Germany, as represented by the men in power, may be only putting off the day of reckoning. Let us strengthen our navy greatly and prepare for that day. I am not one of those who see the need of a large regular army, because the sea is sufficient protection, provided we see to it that we are at least as strong as Germany on the sea; for they could never land their troops. Of course, our army needs some increase, training for a larger number of officers and better terms of enlistment, so that we should have a nucleus of an army for an emergency.

L. H. ROBERTS.

Stonybrook, N. Y., Aug. 26, 1915.

A Belgian Prisoner's Thanks.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: You will doubtless be pleased to know that the announcement you inserted in your paper on July 19 last resulted in hearing from many of your kind readers, who sent me, as all are enjoying together. I am going to answer my correspondents as well as I can, but I beg you to thank them all sincerely by means of your paper.

MAURICE STOUDEUR,
Belgian soldier, prisoner in Holland.
Camp d'Harderwijk, Holland, Aug. 19, 1915.

THE POLITICIAN SPECIES

Some Observations Inspired by Recent Occurrences.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: More absorbingly interesting than that of Darwin's "Origin of Species" is the study of the ways of the American politician. It matters not a whit whether the subject of study be chosen from one or other of the parties, Republican, Democrat, Progressive, Prohibitionist or Laborite. Though their paths and their modes of procedure differ, their ultimate goal is in every case the same. In most cases those who have once attained to place in the spotlight of the public view, whether through notoriety or notoriety, become obsessed with a sense of their divine appointment to lead the people up out of the land of bondage and darkness into a bright Canaan of milk and honey. They refuse to recognize that the country is rich in greater minds than their own, trained by profound study and world-wide observation to think in terms of present political expediency, but of far-reaching and world-affecting policy for determining the proper course for our nation to pursue in the present crisis of unprecedented and heretofore undreamed-of complications and difficulties.

First we have Bryan, a fungoid growth of the reeking fertility of our Western plains, whose chief asset is a tireless though tiresome volubility, enriched by a melodious and persuasive voice, chiefly notorious in recent years for his apparently generous and patriotic self-effacement at the Baltimore convention, albeit under a promise, by and to himself, of "my turn next," thereby insuring the nomination of Mr. Wilson for President.

Next we have Roosevelt, whose disappointment at a similar convention in Chicago embittered his soul as to render him incapable of expression save in torrents of vituperative epithet against all those who had once lifted him out of comparative obscurity into the position from which Colozos's pistol shot him into the limelight of the Chief Magistracy. Nothing else could ever have got him there.

Bryan's magnanimity and Roosevelt's malignity were the factors which elected Mr. Wilson; possibly under a special dispensation of divine Providence, "Who moves in a mysterious way his wonders to perform."

What happens now? Bryan, after two years of going to and fro in the land, at a time when any Secretary whose patriotism rose higher than his pocket would have been riveted to his desk in the State Department, and always with a wetted finger raised to catch the first puff of change in the direction of public political sentiment, thinks he sees an opportunity to nail for himself in the approaching elections the millions of German votes, as well as those of organized labor and the pacifists. He incontinently commits an act of desertion and treachery to that government in which he held the second place, almost as treasonable as that of a general who goes over to the enemy under fire.

And Roosevelt? Publicly informing a body of present and prospective soldiers of the nation, and through them the masses, that they have no obligation to obey and support their executive commander in chief and Chief Executive!

And why? Because the Presidential election is imminent, and he tacitly implies that were he in power he would lead the army into undying glory though he led the nation into hell.

It may be that both have wrought for the country's good, for when the taxpaying voters of the nation have had time to think the action of each should procure for him at their hands a final and definite political interment beyond resurrection.

GRUS.

Randolph, Vt., Aug. 28, 1915.

Germany's Dishonest Diplomacy.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg at the opening of the Reichstag recently caused a profound sensation in a speech when he brought to the attention of the members another example of the "Perfidy of Albion."

The German Chancellor quoted Sir Edward Grey as having said at the beginning of the war: "If we are engaged in war we shall suffer but little more than we shall suffer if we stand aside." And Germany now stands aghast! To think that England had contem-

plated at the very beginning that, whether she took part in the conflict or not, her intention was not to suffer.

Of course, the cultured and efficient Chancellor—that gentleman who overlooked a mere treaty guaranteeing the neutrality of Belgium and afterward magnanimously admitted its breach in the Reichstag, not forgetting his designation of this self-same treaty as a "scrap of paper"—could hardly be expected to know that he had not quite completed Sir Edward Grey's statement. Let us now read exactly what the British Foreign Minister did say:

"If we are engaged in war we shall suffer but little more than we shall suffer if we stand aside. We are going to suffer—I am afraid terribly—in this war whether we are in it or whether we stand aside."

Shorn from its context, the first sentence alone appeals to the Chancellor as all that is necessary for Germany's home consumption. It so clearly proves the hypocrisy of England, coinciding with the views carefully instilled into the people's minds for many years by the autocratic military party of Germany. Herr von Bethmann-Hollweg does not dare to be honest and quote the complete statement, for in doing so he would not be able to leave the impression he desired to give.

It is this type of dishonest diplomacy that is really the cause of the present cruel war, for, putting back our civilization a hundred years, Sir Edward Grey pleaded for an international conference, and was anxious to co-operate in any method Germany thought possible if only Germany would press the button in the interest of peace." It is past history now how the German Chancellor argued back and forth with pretty notes, "proffering eternal friendship and lauding the righteousness of Sir Edward's efforts, but did not think it worth while to "press the button." Since then the United States has had a taste of this dishonest diplomacy in the recent notes on the Lusitania atrocity that have been passing between Washington and Wilhelmstrasse. In reply to our frank and specific notes we have received polite ones in return protesting undying affection, but in every instance evading the real issue.

How near in the past few days the dishonest diplomacy of Germany threatened the peace of the United States is a matter that is still fresh in the minds of the people. The German nation is being shamefully betrayed by its statesmen, and the day of reckoning is certain to come when liberty-loving Germans will shake off the shackles of autocracy that now bind them.

L. H. KINGSTONE.

New York, Aug. 30, 1915.

A Voice for Patience.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: The unjust and uncalled for war that is now devastating nearly all Europe seems to have aroused in our people a spirit of anxiety in regard to what is our duty in dealing fairly with the various contending forces. We Americans have no grievance against any of the nations engaged in this terrible war, with one exception. That is Germany. She has made some serious blunders in the conduct of her submarine warfare. I doubt very much if the German government approves of the actions of some of her naval officers in torpedoing vessels on which Americans were passengers without due warning. Let us be patient for a while and see what Germany has to say in justification of those acts before we arrive at definite conclusions.

Patience is a great virtue. Some of our prominent men, I am sorry to say, are very impulsive and are ready to jump at conclusions without due regard for the rights of others. One thing is certain: this great war has aroused the American people to a sense of their duty as patriotic Americans. What we want to do is to teach patriotism and loyalty in all our schools and churches and organize companies of Boy Scouts in all of them. Have them thoroughly drilled in military tactics. Then when they arrive at the proper age they will not require much training to make them efficient soldiers of the Republic.

America does not want to maintain a standing army of 600,000 or 700,000 men. That would be a great tax on the people. Let us unite in a determination to preserve our glorious institutions, and, if possible, live at peace with all nations.

PETER TWAMLEY.

New York, Aug. 27, 1915.

AUSTRIA IN THE BALKANS

Her Right to Bosnia and Herzegovina Based on Her Work of Civilization.

To the Editor of The Tribune.

Sir: In a letter to you Mr. Silashki asserted: "The Allies are offering to Serbia Bosnia-Herzegovina for ceding Macedonia. What a joke to offer us our own lands, which even Austrian systematic subjugation and Germanization could not alienate from the Serbian race."

Among the many evil characters of the Serbian race greed and impertinence are the foremost. In the words "our own lands" both of these bad characteristics are sufficiently pictured. I am very anxious to know from whence Serbia has any right to these portions of lands.

Bosnia-Herzegovina were originally under the Turkish rule. At the Congress of Berlin in 1878 the powers conceded to Austria the right to occupy those Turkish provinces. Austria then invaded Bosnia. But the inhabitants resisted, and only after a long and hard fight could Austria gain control of the territory. But the bloodshed was not ended. In the wild and rugged mountains there lived reckless, turbulent tribes which refused to abide by the law. Bandits made travelling unsafe. They raided the villages, carrying off the women, murdering the men and denuding the towns of everything valuable. It took Austria a long time to subdue the troublesome elements. Thousands of lives were sacrificed in the preservation of law and order. Roads, railways and mines that were built by the government were demolished by the Bosnian mountaineers, and only systematic prosecution could gain the upper hand. Tireless work made Bosnia-Herzegovina prosperous and influential provinces.

After forty years of unceasing labor, the loss of thousands of precious lives, the vestment of millions, Austria claimed territories for herself and annexed them as crown lands. This was contrary to Serbia's high-flying plans. She hoped that after Austria completed the work of civilization she would be presented with the cultured regions, and thereby make the first step to be a world power. But when she began to realize that Bosnia was lost forever her abominable statesmen started the most despicable anarchistic campaign in history. And when, in 1908, Austria announced the permanent occupation of the two Balkan provinces, Serbia's indignation reached its top mark.

Serbia's agents swarmed through Austria. They spread dissatisfaction among the up to then contented population; they whispered into the ears of the peasants false stories about oppression and tyranny; preached a questionable liberty to ignorant people and corrupted the young generations with revolutionary aspirations. From Belgrade came plans of revolutions for the overthrow of the Hapsburg dynasty and the reduction of the Dual Monarchy. The first open blow struck at Austria was the assassination of the Archduke Francis Ferdinand and his wife. But Austria decided that it was also to be the last blow, and after Serbia's unsatisfactory answer to her ultimatum she declared war.

Never was there a more just war fought than that of Austria against Serbia. After Serbia's backers are defeated then her turn will come, and she will be eradicated from the list of the nations as punishment for her disgraceful conduct.

Bosnia and Herzegovina belong to Austria, as the Canal Zone belongs to the United States. While the United States spent only money on the zone, the Dual Monarchy gave both wealth and life for her Balkan possessions, and thereby gained an unquestionable right to them.

FRITZ ROSENTHAL.

Pittsfield, Mass., Aug. 24, 1915.

Thanks.

To the Editor of The Tribune.
Sir: The thanks of all good citizens are due to The Tribune for the inspiring editorials which have appeared in its columns during the past two months.